

**Amendments To The Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**In the Claims:**

- 1-20. (Cancelled).
21. (Currently amended) A method of screening for identifying a compound that decreases binding between ~~a protein comprising~~ a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of Seq ID NO:1 and the ~~protein's polypeptide's~~ receptor expressed on B cells, the method comprising contacting said ~~protein polypeptide~~ and said B cell receptor in the presence of a test compound, where a decrease in binding of the ~~protein polypeptide~~ to the receptor, compared to that which would occur in the absence of said test compound, indicates said test compound decreases the binding of the ~~protein polypeptide~~ and the receptor.
22. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 21 wherein the ~~protein comprises a~~ polypeptide comprises having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
23. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 21 wherein the ~~protein polypeptide~~ is a trimer.
24. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 21 wherein the ~~protein polypeptide~~ is a homotrimer.
25. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 22 wherein the ~~protein polypeptide~~ is a trimer.
26. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 22 wherein the ~~protein polypeptide~~ is a homotrimer.
- 27-36. (Cancelled).